

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /061 W
----- 093449

P R 282235Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7960

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1641

E.O. 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PGOV, ES, PN, OAS, CS, GT

SUBJ: TORRIJOS ISITS EL SALVADOR

1. SALVADORAN PRESS OF APRIL 26 CARRIED STORY WHICH GAVE FOLLOWING DETAILS OF UNEXPECTED "LIGHTNING" APRIL 24 VISIT TO EL SALVADOR, AND MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA, OF PANAMANIAN CHIEF OF STATE OMAR TORRIJOS.

2. WHILE IN GUATEMALA ON MORNING OF APRIL 24 TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT LANGERUD, TORRIJOS TELEPHONED MOLINA TO SAY HE WOULD STOP OFF IN SAN SALVADOR THAT AFTERNOON. MET AT THE AIRPORT BY MOD ROMERO, TORRIJOS WAS TAKEN TO CASA PRESIDENCIAL FOR LUNCH WITH MOLINA.

3. TORRIJOS WAS HERE TO: 1) SOLICIT EL SALVADORS SUPPORT VIS A VIS A NEW CANAL TREATY; AND 2) EXCHANGE OPINIONS ON HONDURAN SITUATION AND OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN ISSUES.

4. TORRIJOS LEFT SAN SALVADOR IN THE "EARLY AFTERNOON" ON
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HIS WAY TO SAN JOSE AND A SIMILAR MEETING WITH COSTA RICAN

PRESIDENT ODUBER.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY IMPRESSION IS THAT PRESS TREATMENT OF TORRIJOS VISIT WAS ACCURATE, AS FAR AS IT WENT. STRUCK BY THE UNANNOUNCED AND INFORMAL NATURE OF A JAUNT WHICH COVERED THREE COUNTRIES IN ONE DAY, AND THE PROXIMITY OF THE WASHINGTON OASGA MEETING, WE FEEL THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT TORRIJOS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DRUMMING UP SUPPORT FOR A SURPRISE PANAMANIAN INITIATIVE IN THE OASGA.
CAMPBELL

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